

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JIDDA 02529 081035Z

21

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EA-06 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

OMB-01 EB-07 AID-05 EUR-12 IO-10 /095 W

----- 035518

O 081015Z APR 75 ZFF SAIGON

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO AMEMBASSY SAIGON NIACT IMMEDIATE

USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 865

C O N F I D E N T I A L JIDDA 2529

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SA, US, VS

SUBJECT: PLANNED VISIT TO SAUDI ARABIA OF SOUTH VIETNAMESE FOREIGN
MINISTER

1. ON APRIL 8 SOUTH VIETNAMESE AMBASSADOR DON TOLD
AMBASSADOR AKINS THAT FOREIGN MINISTER BAC WAS SCHEDULED
TO ARRIVE IN JIDDA FROM LONDON VIA SAUDI ARABIAN AIRLINES
EVENING OF THURSADY, APRIL 10. AN AUDIENCE WITH KING
KHALID HAD BEEN SET FOR BAC ON SATURDAY MORNING, APRIL 12,
AND MEETINGS WITH OTHER GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WERE TO
FOLLOW. AMBASSADOR DON WAS CONCERNED, HOWEVER, BECAUSE
HE HAS REPEATEDLY ASKED SAIGON WHETHER RECENT CABINET
CHANGE HAS AFFECTED BAC POSITION, AND SOUGHT CONFIRMATION
BAC TRIP WAS STILL ON. HE HAS RECEIVED NO REPLY.

2. ACTION REQUESTED: FOR SAIGON: CAN EMBASSY CONFIRM
WHETHER BAC IS STILL MEMBER OF CABINET OR PROVIDE ANY
FURTHER INFORMATION RE HIS PLANS VISIT SAUDI ARABIA?
FOR LONDON AND GENEVA: COULD EMBASSIES SEEK CONFIRMATION
OF BAC'S TRAVEL PLANS? FOR DEPARTMENT: IS DEPT AWARE--
IF BAC COMES--WHETHER HE IS PREPARED TO DISCUSS POSSI-
BILITY OF SAUDI LOAN TO SUPPORT OIL SHIPMENTS TO SOUTH
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PAGE 02 JIDDA 02529 081035Z

VIETNAM? SOUTH VIETNAMESE AMBASSADOR HAD RECEIVED NO

INFORMATION ON THIS TOPIC (WHICH AROSE DURING SECRETARY'S VISIT TO RIYADH MARCH 19) AND APPEARED QUITE UNAWARE OF IT. THE SAG IS PREPARED TO DISCUSS THE LOAN.

3. AMBASSADOR AKINS TOLD AMBASSADOR DON WE WOULD TRY TO GET HIM ANSWERS ASAP; WOULD APPRECIATE ADDRESSESS REPLYING BY NIACT IMMEDIATE.

AKINS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ITINERARY, MEETING AGENDA, MINISTERIAL VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: WorrelSW
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975JIDDA02529
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750121-0429
From: JIDDA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750472/aaaacnwu.tel
Line Count: 69
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: WorrelSW
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 JUN 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <04 NOV 2003 by WorrelSW>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PLANNED VISIT TO SAUDI ARABIA OF SOUTH VIETNAMESE FOREIGN MINISTER
TAGS: PFOR, SA, US, VS, (VUONG VAN BAC)
To: SAIGON
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006